

# FEMA Awards Rhode Island Hospital Over \$5.4 Million for COVID Operating Costs

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**BOSTON** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending more than \$5.4 million to the State of Rhode Island to reimburse Rhode Island Hospital for the cost of operating safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$5,403,537 FEMA Public Assistance grant will reimburse non-profit academic medical center in Providence – affiliated with Brown University – for steps taken to protect patients, staff and the public between November 2020 and June 2022.

Rhode Island Hospital contracted for extra staff to provide pre-screening of patients and visitors at facility entrances to ensure compliance with visitation and screening policies under COVID protocols.

“FEMA is pleased to be able to assist Rhode Island Hospital with these costs,” said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. “Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and our success as a nation.”

FEMA’s Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

This grant brings the total awarded by FEMA to the State of Rhode Island to almost \$600 million to reimburse the state for pandemic-related expenses.

